



BROWN

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The Honorable Geoff Davis, Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee Subcommittee on Human Resources  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC

Dear Chairman Davis,

Thank you for opportunity to testify before your Subcommittee yesterday. The questions asked were profound and thoughtful.

As to suggestions for 'budget neutral' policies that could help alleviate the problem of child maltreatment deaths, I would ask you to consider the following. The Federal government funds many fellowship training programs in pediatrics through various agencies including NIH and MCHB. Perhaps money to train the critically needed experts in Child Abuse Pediatrics fellowships could be obtained by trimming other fellowship programs to a slight degree and pooling that money to fund fellowships in this field. Unlike some other fields, the candidates for Child Abuse Pediatrics fellowship training come from very prestigious institutions and are highly qualified. There are pediatricians anxiously waiting for these training slots, which are few.

My own fellowship training program is funded on a "hand to mouth" basis. We have no faculty support for fellowship training. Our faculty trains fellows in addition to the other work we do—patient care, research, and community outreach (such as participation in child death review in our state, which is also an unpaid activity). We raise some money from donations from charitable organizations (recently we received gifts from the Blackstone Valley Harley Owners Group and the Rhode Island Bartenders Association), but money from these sources is sporadic. Our hospital provides some funds, but as all hospital, it is coming under more and more financial pressure and also a dwindling source of support.

I am attaching a description of our Fellowship Training Program in Child Abuse Pediatrics here at Brown Medical School. It gives an outline of what fellowship training programs in this field cover.

Again, thank you for caring about the difficult problem of child abuse and neglect deaths.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carole Jenny". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" for "Jenny".

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